

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 478

By Sands

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Frank Freeman
Sowell of Columbia.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Mr. Frank Freeman Sowell; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who was very dedicated to his profession, community and family; and

WHEREAS, affectionately known as 'Pop' to his grandchildren, Mr. Sowell was known throughout his community as a person who loved people; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell was an active and devout member of the West Seventh Street Church; and

WHEREAS, the legacy Mr. Sowell leaves will be long remembered and treasured by friends and associates; and

WHEREAS, he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and with the 8th Army/Air Corps Division in England during World War II; and

WHEREAS, in 1947 he graduated from the Gupton-Jones School of Mortuary Science and later became a partner and then owner, prior to establishing the family corporation of Oakes and Nichols Funeral Home, where he served as the chairman of the board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell was extremely active in community and civic affairs, serving in various capacities with the Columbia Lions Club, American Field Service, United Givers Fund,

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Maury County TB & Health Association, and the Maury County Chamber of Commerce, to name a few; and

WHEREAS. Mr. Sowell received numerous awards for community service, including the Old Monarch Award from the Columbia Lions Club; he was the first recipient of the Outstanding Citizen Award, and jointly awarded, with his wife, the Maury County Bar Association's Liberty Bell Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell was a deserving recipient of the Maury County March of Dimes Citizen of the Year award and received the Lucille Queener Courtney Community Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell's annual chitlin suppers attracted people from throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, he also contributed his time and numerous talents to noteworthy causes as the Maury County Homecoming '86 serving with his wife as co-chair in that significant commemoration; the Maury County Community Band and the Aquatic Center at Columbia State Community College; and

WHEREAS, he had the great honor of burying great princes and paupers alike, yet gave all royal compassionate service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sowell enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Dorothy Gray Sowell; their three daughters, Miss Jane Gray "Bunny" Sowell, Mrs. Louis Harvey (Beth) Fischer, and Miss Sammye A. Sowell; one son, Tony (Susie) Sowell of Santa Fe; and grandfather of five grandchildren, Matthew Freeman Sowell, Andrew Delk Sowell, Meribeth Gray Sowell, William Chafin Fischer, and John Louis Fischer; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, That we pause in our deliberations to honor the memory of Mr. Frank Freeman Sowell and express our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution, with this final resolving clause deleted, be prepared for presentation.